

NORTHROP EXHIBIT C



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William Egan, III
Heller, Ehrman, White, McAuliffe
333 Bush Street
San Francisco, CA 94104-2878

Dear Bill:

Re: Patentability Search
MICROINSTRUMENTATION-BASED POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION (PCR)
DIAGNOSTICS
Inventor: Northrop and White
Case No.: B92-011

This letter is authorization to perform a patentability search for the above invention disclosure. Upon completion of your review of the literature and available patents (including a European patent search), please forward the documentation to me with a copy to the inventors.

Please refer to the above case number B92-011 for billing your time and materials.

If I can be of any assistance in obtaining further information or in setting up meetings, please call me.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Taper, Jr.
Licensing Associate

SAT:cdc

cc: Dr. White
Dr. Northrop